



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

28 DECEMBER 2016

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Sacramento – Backpage.com Faces New Pimping, Money Laundering Charges in California

(U) New charges have been filed against the CEO of Backpage.com that includes allegations underage children were pimped through the website. The California Attorney General's office announced the charges that included 26 counts of money laundering and 13 counts of pimping and conspiracy to commit pimping. Seven of the pimping counts include children. The CEO allegedly created multiple corporate entities to move money around because financial institutions wouldn't take the money from overtly sexual material, according to the attorney general's office.

SOURCE: 23 December 2016, [CBS Sacramento](#)

(U) South Lake Tahoe – Series of Earthquakes Hit Near California-Nevada State Line

(U) A series of earthquakes reported hit this morning near the Nevada-California state line, according to the US Geological Survey. The first earthquake was a magnitude of 5.7 and occurred at 12:22 a.m. near Hawthorne, NV. There were at least seven quakes with magnitudes between 3 and 5.6 shortly after. Light shaking was felt as far away as South Lake Tahoe, Fresno, Visalia and Merced. The California Office of Emergency Services said it was assessing the situation, but there were no reports of serious injuries or damage.

SOURCE: 28 December 2016, [Los Angeles Times](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Montana –Neo-Nazis Plan Rally in Montana to Target Jews

(U) Whitefish – Top Montana lawmakers yesterday warned neo-Nazis they would find “no safe haven” for a rally that could include guns planned for next month in the mountain town of Whitefish, where white nationalists have threatened Jewish residents. Neo-Nazis plan to march in January to support the mother of a white nationalist leader Richard Spencer, who is reportedly being pressured by community members to sell a building she owns in Whitefish because of its ties to her son. In response, the neo-Nazi and white supremacist website “Daily Stormer” urged its readers in an article to “take action” against Jews in the Whitefish area.

SOURCE: 27 December 2016, [Reuters](#)

(U) New York – US Accuses Chinese Citizens of Hacking Law Firms, Insider Trading

(U) Manhattan – Three Chinese citizens have been criminally charged in the US with trading confidential corporate information obtained by hacking into networks and servers of law firms working on mergers, according to US prosecutors. Prosecutors say the men made more than \$4 million by placing trades in at least five company stocks based on inside information from unnamed law firms. The case is the latest US insider trading prosecution to involved hacking, and follows warnings by US officials that law firms could become prime targets for hackers.

SOURCE: 28 December 2016, [Reuters](#), [New York Times](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) China – Five Dead in Attack in Xinjiang

(U) Beijing – Five people were killed in the far western region of Xinjiang after attackers drove a car into a government building. Hundreds of people have been killed over the past years in Xinjiang, on the borders or central Asia, in violence between the Muslim Uighur and ethnic majority Han Chinese. The Chinese government has blamed unrest on Islamist militants, while rights groups and exiles say anger at Chinese controls on the religion and culture of Uighurs is more to blame.

SOURCE: 28 December 2016, [Reuters](#)

(U) Philippines – \$120 Million Worth of Meth Seized in Philippines' Drug Raid

(U) Manila – Philippine authorities have made the biggest drug seizure in the country's history, confiscating 2,000 pounds of methamphetamine worth \$120 million in a series of raids this month. Another 290 gallons of the drug in its liquid form was also confiscated. The operation came after a four month probe by the country's National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) after receiving a tip about a Chinese organization manufacturing and distributing illegal drugs. Three Chinese nationals and seven Filipinos were arrested in the raids, according to the NBI.

SOURCE: 28 December 2016, [CNN](#)

(U) Saudi Arabia – More Than 2,000 Saudis Fight for Militant Organizations, Says Interior Ministry

(U) Riyadh – More than 2,000 Saudis are fighting for militant organizations abroad, according to the Saudi Interior Ministry. A total of 1,540 are thought to be fighting in Syria and others are in Yemen, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iraq. Saudi Arabia's General Mansour al-Turki said 73 Saudis had been arrested abroad for "terror-related activities." He also said 147 of the country's citizens travelled to Yemen, where Saudi Arabia launched a military intervention in 2015. He added that there were significantly more Moroccan and Tunisian militants. More than 5,000 Tunisians are thought to be fighting abroad, according to the UN.

SOURCE: 27 December 2016, [Independent](#)

(U) Southern Border

(U) Texas – \$2.5 Million in Alleged Methamphetamine Seized at Bridge in Hidalgo

(U) Hidalgo – A 26-year-old woman from Kansas City, MO, was arrested at the Hidalgo International Bridge after attempting to evade federal inspection while allegedly concealing \$2.5 million in methamphetamine in her vehicle, according to US Customs and Border Protection. The woman reportedly failed to stop at the inspection booth upon arriving at the port via the secure Electronic Network for Travelers Rapid Inspection lane. Once the woman was intercepted and escorted for inspection, officers used non-intrusive imaging inspection and a canine team to discover 24 packages containing a total of 129.19 pounds of alleged methamphetamine concealed within the vehicle.

SOURCE: 27 December 2016, [The Monitor](#)

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